

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3998

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004

TOUR PACKAGE FOR LAHORE-DELHI BUS PASSENGERS

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a whether the Government has proposed any tour package in India for Lahore-Delhi bus passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of Pakistan in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (c) During a technical level meeting between the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) in January 2004, the two sides had discussed the possibility of operating group tours for tourism purposes. Government have granted permission to DTC to operate such tours. DTC have written to their Pakistani counterpart in this regard. The matter was also raised during the Secretary (Culture) level talks with Pakistan on 'Promotion of Friendly Exchanges in Various Fields', held in New Delhi on August 3-4, 2004. It is hoped that Pakistan would respond positively to this proposal.